

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KHARTO 01213 311143Z

46

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 100886

R 311000Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3233

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 1213

EXDIS

FOR S/CCT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, SU

SUBJ: KHARTOUM ASSASSINATIONS

KHARTOUM 0430 DATED MARCH 4, 1973 TO DEPT BEING REPEATED FOR  
YOUR ACTION:

QUOTE

KHARTOUM 0430

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, SU

SUBJ: KHARTOUM ASSASSINATIONS

1. ON MORNING MARCH 4 UNDERSECRETARY MACOMBER ACCOMPANIED  
BY EMBOFF NATIRBOFF AND DEPTOFF SCOTES CALLED ON JORDANIAN  
CHARGE ADLI EL NASIR AT HIS RESIDENCE IN ORDER TO (A) EXPRESS  
SATISFACTION OVER HIS SAFE RELEASE AND (B) TO OBTAIN FIRST-  
HAND ACCOUNT OF EVENTS WITHIN SAUDI EMBASSY DURING HIS PERIOD  
OF DETENTION.

2. CHARGE EL NASIR APPEARED DRAWN AND TENSE BUT OTHERWISE IN  
GOOD HEALTH. EXPRESSING DEEP APPRECIATION FOR CALL, HE IN TURN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 KHARTO 01213 311143Z

EXTENDED HIS SINCERE CONDOLENCES ON DEATHS OF AMB NOEL AND

DCM MOORE. DURING CONVERSATION WHICH ENSUED EL NASIR MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:

3. GOS-TERRORIST NEGOTIATIONS RE SURRENDER

NASIR BELIEVED THAT TERRORISTS' DECISION TO TURN THEMSELVES OVER TO GOS WAS MADE SOMETIME AROUND TEN O'CLOCK NIGHT MARCH 3 AFTER THEY SPOKE TO GOS INTERIOR MINISTER GENERAL MUHAMMAD AL-BAGHIR TO WHOM ANNOUNCED THEIR WILINGNESS TO SURRENDER BUT ONLY ON CONDITION THAT THEIR OWN SAFETY BE ASSURED. ACCORDING TO NASIR, GENERAL BAGHIR WOULD GIVE NO PROMISES EXPECT TO STATE THAT TERRORISTS WOULD BE DEALT WITH "UNDER THE LAW". NASIR CONTINUED THAT TO HIS BEST KNOWLEDGE THERE WERE NO FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS OR CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN TERRORISTS AND GENERAL BAGHIR UNTIL TERRORISTS FINALLY SURRENDERED TO SUDANESE AUTHORITIES THE FOLLOWING MORNING. HE COMMENTED THAT IT DID NOT APPEAR TO HIM THAT GOS MADE ANY PROMISES TO TERRORISTS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THEIR SURRENDER.

4. DECISION TO KILL WESTERNERS

NASIR SAID THAT TERRORISTS ANNOUNCED DECISION TO KILL NOEL, MOORE AND BELGIAN CHARGE AFTER HEARING ON RADIO (A) PRESIDENTS STATMENT EXCLUDING U.S. ACQUIESCENCE TO BLACKMAIL, (B) ANNOUNCEMENT THAT MACOMBER WOULD HAVE NO AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE, AND (C) IMMINENT ARRIVAL IN KHARTOUM OF U.S. PLANE BRINGING MACOMBER AND POSSIBLY GROUP PREPARED CARRY OUT SOMESORT OF "OPERATION" AGAINST THEM. NASIR NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT EVEN BEFORE THIS ANNOUNCEMENT THE TERRORISTS HAD BEEN DEMANDING THAT THE SUDANESE GOVERNMENT FACILITIES THEIR ONWARD TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON WHERE THEY INTENDED "EXECUTE" WESTERNERS AND THEN SURRENDER TO AMERICAN AUTHORITIES IN MOVE WHICH THEY BELIEVED WOULD ATTRACT MORE ATTENTION TO THEIR CAUSE.

COMMENT: WHILE A NUMBER OF FACTS MAY HAVE AFFECTED TIMING OF MURDERS, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT TERRORISTS HAD DECIDED FROM OUTSET TO KILL WESTERNERS UNLESS AT MINIMUM JORDANIANS AGREED TO RELEASE ABU DO'UD AND OTHERS OF HIS PARTY. EVEN THAT MIGHT NOT HAVE SAVED THEM IN OPINION OF SOME. (SEE TELEGRAM REPORTING MINISTER OF INFORMATION CONVERSATIONS WITH MACOMBER.)

5. EVENTS PRIOR TO KILLING

NASIR CONTINUED THAT BEFORE BEING TAKEN OUT, NOEL, MOORE AND BELGIAN CHARGE EID WERE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO WRITE WILLS AS WELL

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 KHARTO 01213 311143Z

AS LETTERS TO THEIR WIVES. (NASIR DID NOT KNOW PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF WILLS WHICH HE THOUGHT HAD BEEN CARRIED BY THE VICTIMS AND PERHAPS LATER DESTROYED DURING THEIR MURDERS. NASIR WAS CERTAIN, HOWEVER, THAT THE LETTERS WERE PRESENTLY IN POSSESSION OF SAUDI AMBASSADOR). FOLLOWING THIS NOEL REQUESTED PERMISSION TO TELEPHONE EMBASSY BUT THIS REQUEST DENIED. WHEREUPON, THE THREE MEN, WHO WERE BEING HOLD UPSTAIRS ROOM TOGETHER WITH SAUDI AMBASSADOR AND JORDANIAN CHARGE, WERE TAKEN DOWNSTAIRS AND IMMEDIATELY SHOT.

PRIOR TO DEPARTURE SAUDI ARABIAN AMBASSADORS WIFE, WHO WAS ALSO VOLUNTARILY BEING HELD, TEARFULLY PLED WITH TERRORISTS NOT TO KILL THE WESTERNERS AND JORDANIAN CHARGE ALSO SAID HE ADVISED TERRORISTS NOT TO TAK PRECIPITOUS ACTION AND TO GIVE THE AMERICANS MORE TIME. WITH SOME EMOTION NASIR RECALLED THAT NOEL, WHO HAD LOST HIS GLASSES DURING HIS CAPTURE AND APPARENTLY HAD DIFFICULTY SEEING, TURNED TO SAUDI AMBASSADOR AND THANKED HIM FOR HIS HOSPITALITY BEFORE HE WAS LED AWAY.

6. TREATMENT DURING DETENTION

NASIR STATED THAT AT NO TIME DURNG THE DETENTION OF THE GROUP WAS ANYONE MISTREATED. IN FACT, OCCASIONALLY TERRORISTS JOKED WITH GROUP, PARTICULARLY THE AMERICANS, PROVIDED THEM WITH TEA AND CIGARETTES. NOEL HAD SLIGHT WOUND IN FOOT INFLICTED DURING CAPTURE AND MOORE ALSO BRUISED IN FACE. BELGIAN CHARGE WAS MORE SERIOUSLY WOUNDED AND ALSO MUCH MORE PSYCHOLOGICALLY AFFECTED BY EVENTS. NASIR FELT THAT IN VIEW OF TERRORISTS ANTI-JORDANIAN POSITION THAT HE WAS IN GREAT DANGER AND THAT FOLLOWING MURDER OF WESTERNERS HE WAS NEXT ON LIST. ALTHOUGH OTHERS WERE BOUND, SAUDI AMBASSADOR WAS NOT VUIMU IDENTIFICATION OF TERRORISTS

NASIR DID NOT KNOW ANY OF THE MEN INVOLVED NOR HAD HE SEEN ANY OF THEM BEFORE. NASIR BELIEVED, HOWEVER, THAT THEY WERE ALL MEMBERS OF THE BLACK SEPTEMBER ORGANIZATION.

8. FOR WASHINGTON.

IN LIGHT OF GOJ QUERY TO USG RE NASIR'S WELL BEING, MACOMBER TOLD NASIR THAT USG WOULD INFORM GOJ THAT HE IS TIRED BUT WELL. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN. SANDERSON

UNQUOTE

BREWER

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 KHARTO 01213 311143Z

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ASSASSINATION, PARAMILITARY FORCES, CASUALTIES, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974KHARTO01213  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740137-1103  
**From:** KHARTOUM  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t1974054/aaaaacvb.tel  
**Line Count:** 155  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** KHARTOUM ASSASSINATIONS KHARTOUM 0430 DATED MARCH 4, 1973 TO DEPT BEING REPEATED FOR  
**TAGS:** PINS, SU, (NOEL), (MOORE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005